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MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant Director for Reports and Estimates

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THE FINNISH PAPER AND TIMBER JOURNAL MONTHLY REPORT

No. 5

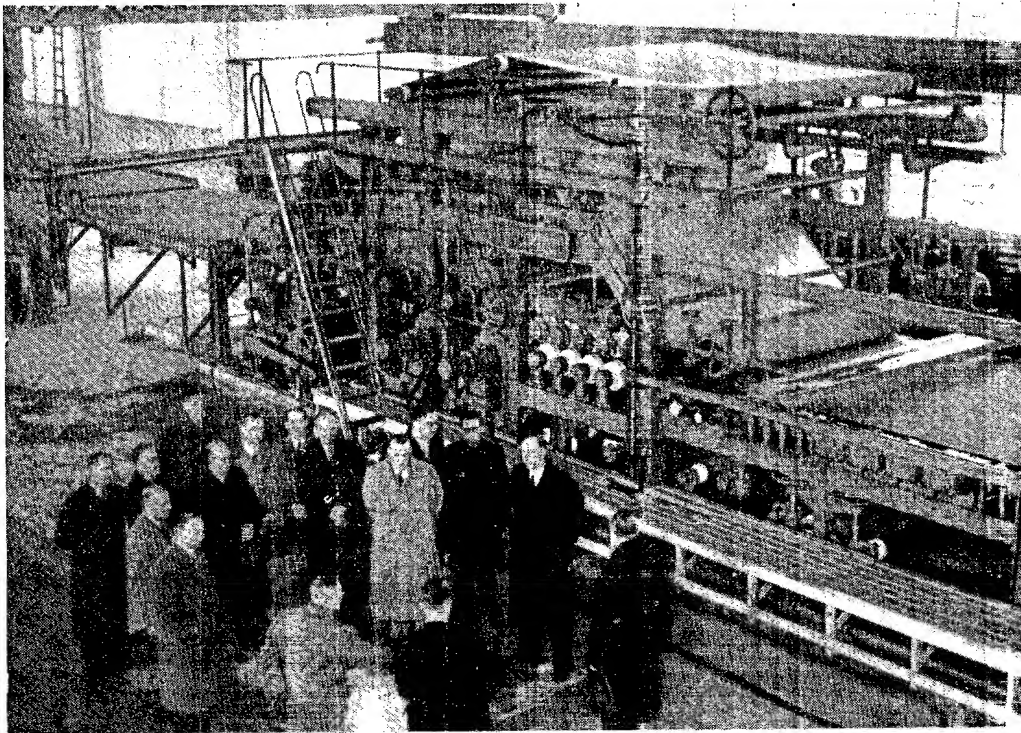
1948

ENGLISH WALLBOARD IMPORTERS VISITING THE FINNISH WALLBOARD INDUSTRY.

The special delegation of the Wallboard Merchants' Association recently visiting Scandinavia spent five days from 12 to 16 April in Finland. Mr. A. Reginald Alvin of Leeds was Chairman of the Delegation, Mr. Clifford B. North of Hull, Vice-Chairman and other members Mr. Allan R. Kingsley, London, Mr. W. R. Bousfield, London, Mr. G. Edward Payne, Birmingham, Mr. E. Cecil Tetsall, Ipswich, Mr. F. L. Hill, Manchester, Mr. R. Harley Weston, Glasgow, and Mr. R. R. Bradford, Yeovil. They received a most

cordial welcome from the wallboard manufacturers of Finland. A conference was held on Monday the 12th of April with the representatives of all the wallboard manufacturers of Finland, who afterwards entertained the delegation at dinner. There were present also several wellknown and distinguished Finnish businessmen.

On Tuesday the delegation motored to Kotka where met by the Enso-Gutzeit Company. Visits were made to various mills in the district representing its principal manufactures of machinery, glass



Mr. Alvin Chairman of the English wallboard importers delegation pressing the button which set in motion the new mill.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FINNISH PAPER ENGINEERS.

The annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Paper Engineers was held in Helsinki on April 16th—17th, and as last year the Chairman, Mr. Tiilikka took the chair, Mr. Lassenius being the secretary. More than hundred members participated in the proceedings. Among the foreign guests were Mr. Otto Brauns, head of the central laboratories of the paper, wood pulp and wallboard industries of Sweden, representing the Swedish sister organisation; Mr. Otto Imset from the Technical Association of the Norwegian Paper Industry and Mr. L. G. Cottrall representing the Technical Section of Paper Makers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland. Among the guests were Mr. T. Potts and Mr. J. Chapman from England, Prof. B. Groth and Mr. Giertz from Stockholm.

Among the outstanding lectures was that of Mr. Johan Richter of A. B. Kamyr, Karlstad, on continuous cellulose cooking. The interesting lecture revealed that this problem has now been solved. So far it has been used only in sulphate making, but the Mo & Domsjö A. B. are putting a trial plant for sulphite cellulose into operation this year. Four mills operating according to the sulphate method are under construction in Italy, France and Sweden and other mills are planned.

Dr. B. Nybergh lectured on the activities of A. B. Centrallaboratorium, Mr. Murto on chipping of pulp wood, Mr. K. E. Olsoni on the planned

new Technical Central Library, Miss Anna Grönvik on the exploitation of the technical periodicals.

After the meeting had been split up into sections, Mr. Kuve, Mr. Kivi, Mr. Sivola and Mr. Alm read papers in the sulphite section, Mr. Kivi and Sivola giving impressions from a journey to America. In the sulphate section papers were read by Mr. O. Havanti, Mr. L. Markila, Mr. P. Hälle, Mr. O. Nurmiaho and Mr. Y. Tähtinen on the different aspects of sulphate cellulose making.

In the paper section Mr. Wichmann discussed the use of waste paper in the paper industry and the use of the Shartle and Dilt (Black-Clawson) system of defibration. Mr. T. Wiklund gave details of the paper machines used in Canada, and Mr. R. Christiansen of the efforts to increase newsprint production in Canada.

The papers were discussed with considerable interest. All this took place on the first day.

On the second day the statutory matters were dealt with. No less than 15 new applications for membership were approved. As Mr. Tiilikka, on the expiration of his three year term desired to retire from the Chairmanship, the following board was elected: Mr. T. Lehto, Chairman, Mr. G. Weekström, Vice Chairman, and Dr. B. Nybergh, Mr. E. J. Pitkänen and Mr. A. Wichmann ordinary members, with Messrs. G. Kulvik, T. Lassenius O. O. Ojala, and A. Valanto as deputies.

The C. J. Jansson prize for the best paper or study produced by any member during the year was awarded Mr. Björn Sucksdorff for his article on beating and sheet formation in the Finnish Paper and Timber Journal.

The programme of the second day still included a lecture by Mr. O. Imset, Oslo, on beating of pulp in paper making and by Prof. H. Roschier on his research in the field of kinetics in sulphite cooking, by Dr. R. Sarvas on breeding of forest trees and Mr. E. Lampén on the possibilities of time studies in the paper and cellulose industry.

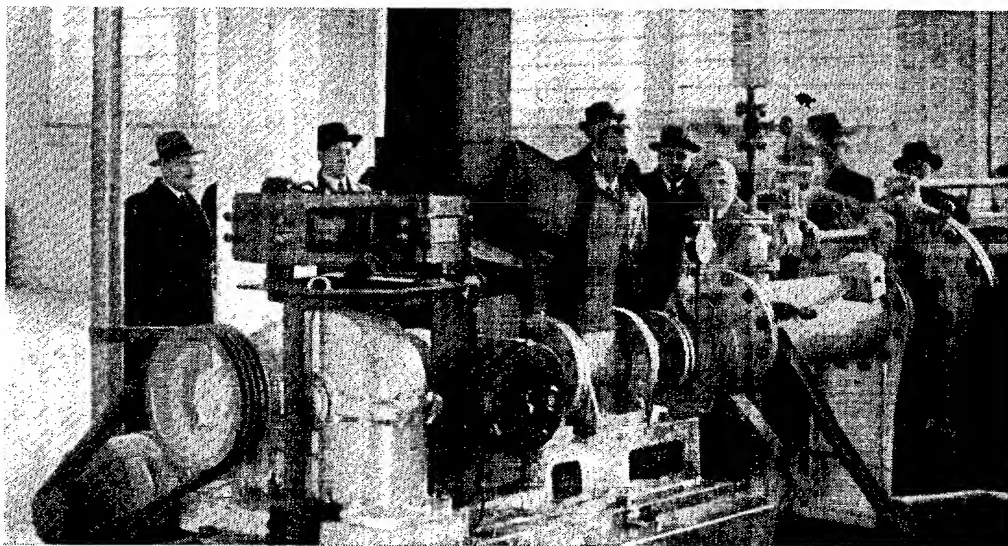
In the evening dinner with dance were arranged at the Adlon restaurants. Many messages from Finland and abroad were read and various speeches were made, after which the paper engineers were able to prove that their skill in the technique of dancing was as great as in that of paper making.

and cellulose. Some time was spent at The Insulite Co. of Finland Oy., where an inspection was made of the mill and methods of packing.

On Wednesday members of the delegation made the long journey to Norrmark by air and road and visited the head quarters of the A. Ahlström Osakeyhtiö. A very important occasion was the visit of the delegation on Thursday to the new wallboard plant of the Ahlström concern at Pihlava, where the Chairman of the delegation was honoured by an invitation to perform the opening ceremony and at 11 o'clock pressed the button which set in motion this most modern installation. On pages 1 and 3 115 we publish some photographs from this occasion. An inspection was also made of the extensive sawmill and storage yards belonging to this company, where many features were of particular interest to the visitors. The thanks of the whole delegation to the Finnish host were especially addressed to Mr. R. Harju-Jeanty for his most capable organisation and assistance throughout the whole trip in Finland.

Friday, April 16th saw the return of the delegation to Sweden whence, after various meetings over the weekend departure for Norway early the following week to meet the Norwegian wallboard manufacturers took place.

NEW WALLBOARD MILL AT PIHLAVA.



The English wallboard importers delegation and their hosts inspecting the defibrators at Pihlava.

On April 14th the new fibre board mill at Pihlava of A. Ahlström O. Y. started operations. The opening occasion was more solemn than usual because of the presence of the representative delegation of the Wallboard Merchants' Association of London.

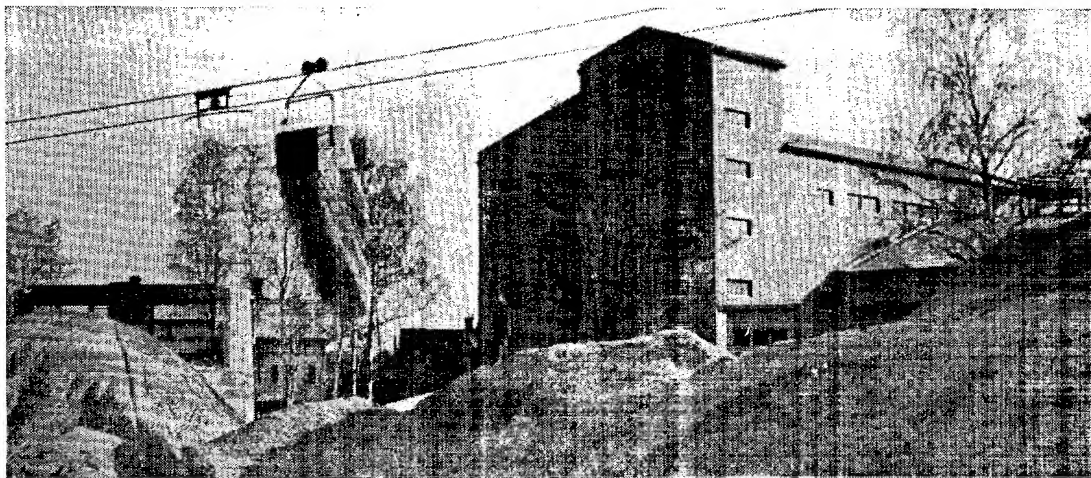
As will appear from a picture on page 1 the «kick-off» was performed by Mr Alvin, Chairman of the Delegation.

The work on the Pihlava mill had commenced in the autumn of 1946, and in the spring of 1947 actual construction could commence. The space of the building and the power station building totals ab. 80 000 cub. metres. Building contractors were A. W. Liljeberg O. Y.

The machinery includes 8 defibrators delivered by A. B. Defibrator, Stockholm. The drying machine is from the Suomen Puhallinteidas O.Y., and most

of the other productive machinery from the Karhula Engineering Works. The present output is 10 000 tons of porous board, but it is intended to include also production of semi-hard and hard board, and preparations indicate that this production will commence early next year. This will raise the total annual output to ab. 25 000 tons. The press required for the hard and semihard board will be delivered by the Karhula works in cooperation with the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia. — Rawmaterial will come from the wastes of the Pihlava sawmill.

Mill manager of the Pihlava mills is Mr. H. Lindeberg, and technical manager of the wallboard mill is Mr. Ingmar Jaatinen. Sales will be handled by the Helsingfors sales office of the A. Ahlström O. Y., Södra Esplanadg. 14. The trade name of the wallboard will be «Ahlström-Board».



Rawmaterial för Pihlava wallboard mill.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FINNISH SAWMILLMEN.

The annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Sawmillmen was held in Helsinki on April 6th in the presence of numerous members and Mr. R. Grueon of London, technical timber expert of Messrs. Price and Pierce as a guest.

The opening speech was held by the Chairman, Prof. M. Levón, who stressed the importance of co-operation between the technical organisations in the timber industry.

After the annual report and auditors report had been passed, Mr. Harju-Jeanty, Mr. Kinnunen and Mr. Naesman were re-elected ordinary members of the Board. Also all the deputies were re-elected, except that Mr. Gustavsson who had died during the year was replaced by Mr. Y. Reunanen.

After the statutory agenda had been gone through, an interesting lecture on Finland's economic position was delivered by Dr. Klaus Varis, and on the market position for sawn goods by Mr. Aarne

Pelkonen of the Finnish Sawmill Owners' Association.

An interesting and pleasurable event was the motion picture and lecture on British timber economy by Mr. Grueon, who spoke fluent Swedish. — Mr. E. A. Jussila gave an account of the work of the committee appointed for the purpose of handling matters relating to sorting of planed goods.

Immediately after the meeting a session of the Board was held. As the Secretary, Mr. Kinnunen wished to retire after having held the position for many years, Mr. U. Rintakoski was elected general secretary, while Mr. K. Kivimaa was re-elected technical secretary. An executive committee consisting of Prof. Levón, Mr. Kinnunen, Mr. Ojala, Mr. Vesa and the two secretaries was elected.

The meeting was ended by a joint dinner in the evening.

And. Auvinen OY. 75 years.

75 years had passed on April 10, 1948, from the establishment of And. Auvinen Oy., the oldest business enterprise in Savonlinna.

Anders Auvinen moved to Savonlinna in 1859 where he established in 1873 a general store. This firm, which right from the beginning entered into direct business contact with St. Petersburg, Lübeck, etc. expanded its activities considerably already during the first decades.

In addition to general merchandise, And. Auvinen concentrated his attention before long also to other fields. In 1887 he bought a land estate and a saw-mill driven by water in the parish of Punkaharju. In 1897 he built a modern two-frame saw-mill, which was driven by steam, on the lakeshore of Putikonlahti. This saw-mill has been enlarged and modernized several times since that date. The main part of its annual output, which amounted to 3 000 standards, was exported. There are also wood planing works in the connection of the saw-mill. And. Auvinen built during the same year on the rapids of Putikko a by water power driven mill. Also a steam-driven mill was built in 1898 in the connection of the original saw-mill. In addition to the above mentioned mills also some other industrial activities of minor importance have been carried on in Putikko; a shipyard, for instance, existed at one time in that place. — From the beginning of 1892 And. Auvinen was also part-owner of the mill and saw-mill of Savola in Savonlinna, but in 1933 these establishments became the property of the sister company, Savola Osakeyhtiö.

After having been closely connected with companies carrying on steamship traffic, And. Auvinen established his own shipping firm in 1894. During the next decades over 20 vessels have been in the transportation

service. Before the first world war they carried firewood to St. Petersburg and returned from there with a full cargo of grain. Between the two world wars these vessels carried timber products to different ports on the Gulf of Finland.

In 1910 And. Auvinen changed his firm into a joint-stock company. After the death of Mr. And. Auvinen, councillor of commerce, on October 7, 1915, his sons, Mr. J. Aleks. Auvinen, councillor of commerce, — who is still the managing director of the firm — Mr. Viktor Auvinen, who died in 1936, and Mr. Yrjö H. Auvinen, who died in 1935, became the directors of the company. After the above mentioned persons, Mr. Erkki Auvinen, Mr. Juhani Auvinen, and Mr. Pekka Auvinen were chosen to the Board of Directors of the company.

Foreign Visitors.

Of gentlemen from abroad, who recently have visited this country may be mentioned:

Mr. F. P. Bishop, general manager of the Newsprint Supply Company, London,

Mr. Stanley Corke, director of Messrs. Legge, Angel, Murrant & Corke Ltd., London.

Mr. Eino Enegrén, director of Agences Papetières Réunies, Paris,

Mr. Hans-Peter Rolin, director of Den Danske Presses Faellesindkøbs-Forening, Copenhagen,

Mr. Bertel Weckman, Istanbul, agent of the Finnish Paper Mills' Association in Turkey,

Mr. Farnand Pardo, director of Messrs. Clement & Joseph Pardo Co., Cairo and

Mr. A. J. Brewer, director of Messrs. Charles Morgan & Co., Ltd, London and Mr. Illingworth of the same firm.

Liner Service between Finland and U.S.A.

The liner service between Finland and U.S.A. by Finnish tonnage was entirely interrupted during the war. It was resumed last year by Suomen Höyrylaiva Osakeyhtiö, who bought a vessel, M/S *Hesperus*, from Norway and placed her into the service.

In view of the importance of Finland's American trade, the big Finnish firms carrying on foreign trade Enso-Gutzeit Oy., Veitsiluoto Oy., S.O.K., O.T.K., Kesko and Tuko, formed in 1947 a shipping company Merivienti Oy., which at first bought three ships for tramp services. Besides the company bought soon three ships more and time chartered one for the Finland—U.S.A. traffic.

The line is in charge of Finnlines Ltd., a daughter company of Merivienti Oy. The Managing Director of Finnlines Ltd., Mr. K. A. Alakari, states that with this tonnage it will be possible to maintain 15 voyages a year in each direction.

More tonnage will be time-chartered if so required and besides new ships will be built as soon as conditions allow.

The Chairman of the Finnlines Ltd. is Mr. Wm. Lehtinen, Managing Director of Enso-Gutzeit Oy.

News and Notes.

At the Brussels Fair a special day for Finland (similar to special days for some other countries arranged before) was held on April 22nd in the presence of the representatives of the Finnish Legation and the Finnish Foreign Trade Union, as guests of the management of the exhibition. The Chief Superintendent, M. Ectors and the general secretary, M. Flory took the Finnish guests to the different stands of the exhibition. A luncheon party was given by the superintendent of the Finnish section, Mr. H. Gullichsen, in honour of the fair management, which was represented by M. Meulebroeck, Mair of Brussels, Senator Catteau, and Mr Verbruggen. Among the guests were also M. Gerard and M. Jottrand of the Fenno-Belgian Chamber of Commerce, M. Raoultaek, Chairman of the Journalists' Association, the Finnish Minister, Dr. Numelin and members of the Finnish delegation. Mr. Gullichsen made a speech on Finland's economic position and Fenno-Belgian trade, the furtherance of which was also stressed in a speech by M. Meulebroeck.

*

Meetings.

The annual meeting of *Puunviejät r.y.* was held in Helsinki on April 12th. Proceedings were opened by the Chairman, Mr. I. Kalkkinen, Mr. I. Helanto was elected chairman of the meeting and Mr. Y. Kohonen secretary.

The annual report and accounts for 1947 were examined and passed. In the course of the elections Mr. A. Aminoff, Mr. E. Anttalainen, Mr. B. Bützow, Mr. V. Eklöf, Mr. Th. Hansson, Mr. I. Helanto, Mr. E. Höglund, Mr. W. Jägerroos, Mr. I. Kalkkinen, Capt. A. Kallio, Mr. L. Kivinen, Mr. V. Mankki, Mr. J. Pekkanen, Mr. E. A. Sapanen, Consul J. W. Tuomisto and Mr. L. Westerlund were re-elected members of the board.

The Board subsequently held a meeting and re-elected Mr. Kalkkinen its Chairman, Mr. Anttalainen its first Vice Chairman, and Mr. E. A. Sapanen second Vice Chairman.

The usual special departments of the board were also appointed.

*

The *Association of Export Timber Measurers* held recently its annual meeting in Helsingfors. The Board was re-elected and consists of Mr. Timofeldt, Mr. O. Lund, Mr. R. Saxén, and Mr. O. Slotte, ordinary members, and Mr. Fr. Seeberg, Mr. E. Sägfors, Mr. Henrik Clément and Mr. N. Sellberg personal deputies respectively. In addition to these Mr. Paavo Turja, the acting secretary and Mr. Paavo Harve, as representative of the Ministry of Supply are on the Board.

The annual report of Bank of Finland was recently issued. The annual turnover shows a considerable increase. As to dealings with foreign exchange, the total value of foreign bills discounted was 1 120 millions, and foreign payments 984 mill. Local discounting also reached record figures, viz. 132.2 billion, while rediscounting during the year reached the reasonable figure of 19.9 bill. No mortgage loans were granted during the year.

Thanks to the increased turnover the gross earnings increased by more than 100 % to Fmks. 778.6 mill., of which interests accounted for 517.5 mill. As the rise in expenditure and costs was not nearly equally great, the net profit of the Bank rose from Fmks. 242 mill. to Fmks. 604 mill.

*

According to official accounts for 1947 the proceeds of the Forestry Board accruing from sales of logs on root totalled Fmks. 1 273 mill. (in 1946 Fmks. 998 mill.) and from delivery logs Fmks. 1 448 mill. (Fmks. 1 343 mill.) Total revenue thus reached Fmks. 2 733 mill. against Fmks. 2 348 mill. the year before. Expenditure increased from Fmks. 1 161 mill. to Fmks. 1 240 mill., which means that the net profit rose from Fmks. 1 187 to Fmks. 1 493 mill. In addition accounts show a profit of Fmks. 173 mill. against a loss of Fmks. 278 mill. the year before.

Since the profit of the Board had been assessed at Fmks. 881 mill. the result thus considerably exceeded expectations.

*

Commemorial of Mr. Eric Sasse.

On February 8th, five years had passed since Belgian fascists cruelly murdered Mr. Eric Sasse, a highly esteemed Belgian subject, who had for a number of years been Finnish honorary consul in Antwerp. On the occasion of the anniversary a commemorial celebration was held at the cemetery in the presence of the next of kin, Mr. Jean E. Sasse, the son of the deceased, and other relatives. Honours were paid by the Mair of Antwerp. M. Lode Craeybeck and by representatives of a number of organisations. Finland was represented by the Finnish Minister in Belgium, Dr. R. Numelin. Legation Secretary J. Hallama. Consul Munsterhjelm and the Seamen's Pastor A. Aaltonen. Minister Numelin made a short speech and laid a wreath with ribbons in the Finnish colours.

After this ceremony the commemorial celebration was continued at the Cercle Royal Artistique, where also the Swedish and Norwegian Ministers participated. The Minister of Education M. Huysmans made a speech and a foundation for the support of students of commerce was created.

Personal Items.

On April 13th Baron Kenneth Wrede, managing director of Säteri O. Y. in Valkeakoski celebrated his fiftieth birthday.

Baron Wrede completed his school in Åbo in 1916 and then as a young student participated in a research excursion to Mongolia. After his return he took his technical examination in chemistry and then held positions with various cellulose industries. Between 1924 and 1927 he was head chemist at the A.B. Kaukas Fabriks sulphite cellulose mill at Lauritsala. In 1927 he was granted a scholarship for the purpose of studying the production of rayon cellulose in U.S.A. and Canada and was for a time assistant technical manager of the Metabetchouan Sulphite & Power Co. of Desbiens, Quebec. After his return he resumed his position as chief chemist of the Kaukas mill in 1928--1937 and during this period the sulphite mill was completely renewed and experimental plant for making rayon cellulose was built. In 1937 he became managing director of Finland's first mill for rayon, the Kuitu O. Y. in Karelia. As this area and the factory were ceded to the Soviet Union in the first peace treaty of Moscow, Baron Wrede immediately started planning a new company, the Säteri O. Y. of which he has remained the managing director since its foundation.

*

Mr. Hjalmar Pöhlö, managing director of Otavan Saha Oy., Läsäkoski Oy. and Mikkelin Puutavariike Oy., celebrated on April 18th the sixtieth anniversary of his birth in Otava.

Mr. Pöhlö has for many years been actively interested in a number of Finnish sawmilling enterprises which he has managed with great success. He is also

since the foundation the chairman of the Board of Directors of Haukivuoren Puutavara Oy. He was also one of the founders of Kotkan Puutavara Oy. and Otavan Saha Oy. and is chairman of their Board of Directors.

*

Mr. B. T. Stähle, former technical manager of the Kajaani Oy. paper and mechanical pulp mills, celebrated on April 19th the seventieth anniversary of his birth.

*

On April 24th Mr. Oskari Santaholma, managing director of A. Santaholma O.Y., celebrated his 70th birthday.

After completing school Mr. Santaholma went to England to study languages. After his return he entered the business of his father, first as a member of the board, but in 1919 as managing director, a position he still holds. Mr. Santaholma is known in particular as an experienced timberman, but he has had much time and interest to spare also for municipal and public matters and in the course of years has earned various distinctions and honours in this field.

*

On April 25th, Mr. Tryggve Z. Wiklund, assistant technical manager at the Voikka paper and mechanical wood pulp mill, celebrated his 50th birthday.

After graduating from the Technical University, Mr. Wiklund studied in U.S.A. On his return he joined the Voikka mill, in the service of which he has subsequently remained. He has been a member of the Association of Finnish Paper Engineers since 1927, and in 1942-48 was a member of its Board. Since 1948 he is Chairman of the Technical Committee of Department I of the Finnish Paper Mills' Association and also the representative of this Association at the Executive Committee of the Central Laboratory.

Among colleagues at home and abroad, Mr. Wiklund is known as an expert especially on newsprint making.

*

On April 30th, Mr. Väinö Johannes Rinne, technical manager of the Saastamoinen mills of Kuopio celebrated his 50th birthday.

After graduating from the Technical University, Mr. Rinne entered the woodworking trade as mill engineer at the plywood mill of Oy. Wilh. Schauman Ab. and acted later as technical manager of the plywood factory of Fennia Faneriosakeyhtiö and the A. Ahlström Oy's plywood factory. He obtained his present position in 1944.

Mr. Rinne who is well-known and appreciated as an expert in his particular field, has published a number of articles and books. He has also held municipal posts of distinction. Since 1944 Mr. Rinne is a member of the Board of the Federation of Woodworking Employers.

In 1927—1928 and in 1930 he undertook extensive journeys to U.S.A., Canada, England and other countries to study the production of plywood.

*

On May 13th Mr. Kaarlo I. Hautala, mill manager of the Pankakoski mills of Enso-Gutzeit O.Y. celebrated his fiftieth birthdate.

After passing the commercial school at Raahe in 1917 and graduating from the Technical University of Helsinki in 1924, Mr. Hautala was in the service of the Kymmene Co. till 1926 after which he undertook a tour of studies in Canada in 1926—1929. On his return he held positions of increasing importance at the Jämsänköske and Walkiakoski mills, until in 1936 he obtained his present position at the Pankakoski mill.

Mr. Hautala is known as an expert on cardboard manufacture, and has remained a member of the Association of Finnish Paper Engineers since 1931.

*

Mr. Birger Eklöf, managing director of the Eklöf-concern, in Borgå, celebrated on May 13th the sixtieth anniversary of his birth.

Mr. Eklöf, one of the sons of Mr. August Eklöf, the founder of this family concern, studied agriculture both in Finland and Sweden until, in 1913, he entered the service of the firm as manager of its estates. In 1918 he became one of the managers and in 1934 he was appointed managing director of the concern, being at the same time chairman or member of the Board of affiliated and other companies.

As head of the family concern Mr. Eklöf has done very valuable work in carrying out the fine traditions which his predecessors have established. He has moreover taken an active interest in municipal work as well as in various other enterprises than his own company and is a member of the board of the Employers' Association of the Finnish Woodworking Industries.

*

One of the leading timber agents in Finland, Mr. John Worsöe, celebrated on May 23rd the sixtieth anniversary of his birth.

Born in Norway, he spent some years in Belgium to study languages and trade matters and entered, in 1907, the service of the well known timber firm Charles Hamfeldt & Co. In 1909 he opened a new branch of the firm at Riga but already in 1911 joined the firm Churchill & Sim, Ltd., in London.

Mr. Worsöe has lived in Finland since 1919, with the exception of a year and a half when he was working with his firm in London. Besides this he at present also acts as one of two representatives of the Associated Pitwood Agents Ltd. in Finland. During his long career he has visited practically all timber exporting and importing countries and has made numerous friends everywhere.

*

On May 21st Mr. Väinö Pelkonen, managing director of Karjalan Metsätuote Oy. at Lappeenranta, celebrated his fiftieth birthday.

After passing his student examination Mr. Pelkonen completed his commercial education at home and abroad, for inst. at the Sawmilling School of Härnösand in Sweden. In 1919 Mr. Pelkonen acted as a sawmill foreman in the sawmill of Annalan Kartano Oy. being the founder of this firm. In 1921—22 Mr. Pelkonen was in the service of Suomalainen Puuliike Oy. being the sawmill manager of the Koivisto sawmill. He was also one of the founders of Annalan Saha Oy. and acted as a sawmill manager of the mentioned sawmill in 1922—24 and as managing director since 1924. He was also one of the founders of Karjalan Puutuote Oy. and acted as managing director since 1924. Also he was a founder of Karjalan Metsätuote Oy. being at present managing director of the mentioned firm since 1932.

*

In recent weeks a great number of foreign businessmen have visited this country. Among these was Sir Leonard Paton, who arrived early in April. Mr. Paton is head of the plywood section of the Timber Control of England. He arrived for the purpose of discussions with the Finnish producers and was accompanied by Mr. H. G. C. Townsend, who is also from the Timber Control.

*

Mr. A. A. Neale, head of Messrs. Beach, Neale & Co. Ltd. of London, well-known agency firm in plywood, wallboard, veneers, staves etc. also visited a number of mills in Finland to discuss current business matters with his old connections. Mr. Neale was also a guest at the annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Wood Engineers.

*

Mr. Trevor Potts, technical adviser for woodpulp to Messrs. Price & Pierce Ltd, London visited Finland by the middle of April and called on a number of mills for both mechanical and chemical woodpulp. In the course of his visit Mr. Potts was also an invited guest at the annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Paper Engineers, and had an opportunity of discussing current questions with the technical staff of many mills.

*

It is reported that Mr. Arne Castrén, general manager of Helsingfors Aktiebank will retire from this post on September 1st. It is not yet known who will be his successor.

*

Mr. Charles Nyberg, managing director of the wellknown agency firm Nyberg & Co. A/S of Copenhagen has recently visited this country for discussing actual problems with the Finnish exporters.

*

Lieut. Col. L. R. Grant of Messrs. W. Grant & Co., well-known timber agents of Edinburgh, recently visited this country calling on his old acquaintances. This is the first time after the war that Col. Grant visits this country, where of old he has many friends.

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Mr. Roland Grugeon, technical adviser for timber to Messrs. Price & Pierce Ltd. of London, wellknown for decades among Finnish timber people, has been staying in Finland for some weeks. Mr. Grugeon also participated in the forestry week and two occasions made valuable contributions to the programme. At a meeting for the purpose of discussing forestry wages problems, arranged by the Ministry for Social Affairs, he gave an excellent summary of the activities of British timber industries during the war and the difficulties which had to be overcome. His lecture he illustrated by a most interesting film production made at the initiative of the Forestry Commission, in England, giving an idea of the elaborate work undertaken to plant forests in England. Mr. Grugeon was also invited to the annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Sawmillmen, where he contributed to the programme with equal success. In the course of his stay he has visited a number of mills, participating among other things in an excursion to the mills of the Rosenlew and Kaukas combines, arranged by Minister for Social Affairs, Härmä. At the end of May Mr. Grugeon will leave for Sweden and he expects to be back in London about Midsummer.

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Dr. Jobin and Mr. Allison from the British Paper and Board Industry Research Association recently arrived in this country to acquaint themselves with our paper and cellulose industry and the research work carried out there.

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Mr. Olavi Pyhälä has been appointed managing director of Haarlau Selluloosayhtiö after Mr. Ville Pyhälä who recently died.

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Mr. J. E. Alfthan has been appointed representative of Svenska Tändsticks Aktiebolaget i Finland, where this company owns several industrial enterprises. Mr. Alfthan will still act as managing director of Osakeyhtiö Savo in Kuopio. Mr. W. Enqvist from The Employers' Association of Finnish Woodworking Industries has been appointed mill manager of the plywood and wallboard mills belonging to Oy. Savo. Mr. Enqvist will take up his new post as from June 1st.

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Mr. L. G. Cottrall, chief chemist of Albert E. Reed & Co., in the capacity of official representative of the Technical Section of the Paper Makers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, was present at the annual meeting of the Association of Finnish Paper Engineers. Mr. Cottrall, who last year was Chairman of the Technical Section has taken the opportunity of inspecting a number of mills in Finland.

Mr. J. Chapman, chemical engineer of Messrs. Albert & Reed & Co. Ltd. was also a guest at the same annual meeting, and has visited a number of mills.

Obituaries.

On April 26th Mr. Ville Pyhälä, mill manager of Haarlau Selluloosatehdas, Lievestuore died at the age of 70.

Mr. Pyhälä acted formerly in the service of the shoe manufacturing industry and was in 1927 appointed office manager at Haarlau Selluloosayhtiö. In 1930 he became commercial manager and in 1934 mill manager, which post he held until his death.

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Mr. Emil Strandwall, mill manager of Alholmen sawmill belonging to Jakobstads Cellulosa AB. died on April 9 at the age of 63.

Mr. Strandwall entered the service of the Alholmen sawmill in 1913 and was later on manager of the sawmill. When the activity in the 30's was ceased he moved to the sawmill belonging to Oy Wilh. Schaudman AB. in Jyväskylä but when the Alholmen sawmill in 1938 was acquired by Jakobstad Cellulosa AB. and again began its activity he went back to his former post.

Mr. Strandwall was a very capable and experienced sawmill man.

Decorations.

The President of Finland has conferred upon Mr. Eino Heinonen, Buenos Aires the distinction of Commander of the Order of the Lion of Finland.

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On April 20th, Mr. Gerrit Key, Finnish Consul General in Amsterdam since 1920, and well-known in Finnish timber circles, with which he has maintained constant contact, celebrated his 60th birthday. On this occasion the Finnish Envoy conferred on him the Commander Insignia of the Order of the Finnish Lion.

It may be mentioned that Mr. Key a few weeks ago visited his friends in Finland to discuss current questions in his branch of business.

Change of Address.

Kymmene Aktiebolag, Halla Fabriker inform as that their postal address now is only Halla, Finland.